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SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT
COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
AND
SANITARY INSPECTOR
FOR THE
YEAR
1949.

SLEAFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

PUBLIC HEALTH, SANITARY AND FARM COMMITTEE.

Councillor L. Kidd. (Chairman of the Council).
Councillor A. Craven. (Chairman of the Committee).
Councillor S.S. Williams.
Councillor W. Rudkin.
Councillor G. Dawson.
Councillor Mrs. D.B. Field.
Councillor D.G. Parr.
Councillor E.A. Smeeton.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

John W. Scholey, M.B., Ch.B.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

T.E. Dagwell, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute and Sanitary Inspectors'
Examination Joint Board.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Inspector of Meat and
Other Foods.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute as Smoke Inspector.

Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute in Sanitary Science as
applied to Buildings and Public Works.

HOUSING OFFICER'S ASSISTANT
AND CLERK TO THE SANITARY INSPECTOR.

W.G. Bryden.

(Resigned 7th November, 1949).

A.V. Barraclough.

(Appointed 5th December, 1949).

12 Market Place,
Sleaford,
Lincs.

23rd June, 1950.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report for the year 1949.

The health of the inhabitants of the town remains good and there has been no serious outbreak of infectious disease. Infectious diseases notifications in fact, have been kept at a low level. It will be noticed that the birthrate has fallen, but still compares favourably with that for the rest of the country. There appears to be rather a high death rate for infants under one year. This is undoubtedly exaggerated by the fact that in a small population one or two deaths can alter the percentage very markedly. Even so, I would like to see some sort of hospital service in the town whereby people could have their confinements in a Nursing Home or hospital run by the State. It is still hoped that the Ministry of Health will see itself able to provide hospital services for the town of Sleaford and district, as there is no doubt that the journey to Lincoln or Grantham proves a very great burden to many people who are sick and also puts a heavy strain on the ambulance service; a service which has worked most satisfactorily in this area.

Housing still remains one of the greatest problems and there are many people living under the most unsatisfactory conditions. However, a good deal of progress has been made and it is hoped these people will gradually be given the opportunity of having a home of their own.

I would like to record my appreciation of the work of all members of your Public Health staff, the Clerk of the Council and other officials, and thank the members of the Council for their goodwill and encouragement in my endeavours.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,
Yours obediently,

JOHN W. SCHOLEY.

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres.	4,549
Population - 1931 census.	7,024.
- Registrar General's Estimate, 31.12.49.	7,600
Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book.	2,157
Number of new houses completed during the year.	59
Rateable Value as at 1st October, 1949.	£49,273
Sum represented by a penny rate.	£194

VITAL STATISTICS.

BIRTHS.

		Male	Female	Total.
<u>Live Births.</u>	Legitimate	59	69	128
	Illegitimate	4	4	8
		<u>63</u>	<u>73</u>	<u>136</u>
<u>Still Births.</u>	Legitimate	1	2	3
	Illegitimate	-	-	-
		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>

Birth Rates.

	1948	1949
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	21.47	16.8
Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)	17.9	16.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population	0.40	0.40
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)	0.42	0.39

DEATHS.

	Male	Female	Total
Number of deaths	41	56	97
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population			12.7
Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated population (England and Wales)			10.8
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year.</u>			
	Male	Female	Total
Number of deaths -			
Legitimate	2	3	5
Illegitimate	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>7</u>
Death Rate per 1,000 live births			18.5
Death Rate per 1,000 live births (England and Wales)			34.0

1948	1949
16.8	16.7
0.40	0.40
0.39	
54.7	32.0

CAUSES OF DEATH.

All Causes	Male 41	Female 56	Total 97
Tuberculosis of the respiratory system	3	2	5
Other forms of Tuberculosis	1	-	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	1	2	3
Cancer of breast	-	4	4
Cancer of all other sites	3	3	6
Diabetes	1	1	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	2	7	9
Heart Diseases	16	16	32
Other diseases of the circulatory system	2	4	6
Bronchitis	2	1	3
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Other respiratory diseases	1	1	2
Other digestive diseases	1	5	6
Nephritis	-	1	1
Other maternal causes	-	1	1
Premature birth	1	-	1
Congenital malformations etc.	2	3	5
Road traffic accidents	1	-	1
All other causes	3	2	5

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES WITHIN THE AREA.

Infectious Disease Hospitals.

No infectious disease hospital is provided within the Urban District and arrangements are made as necessary for cases requiring hospital treatment to be admitted into hospitals in the adjoining areas.

Laboratory Facilities.

Bacteriological examinations are made by the Public Health Laboratory Service, Lincoln. Water samples are sent to the Public Analyst, Mr. W.W. Taylor, 1, Regent Street, Nottingham, when both chemical and bacteriological examinations are required.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

During the year 94 cases of infectious disease were notified.

Scarlet Fever	5
Diphtheria	-
Measles	16
Whooping Cough	65
Erysipelas	2
Pneumonia	5
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1

SECTION 47, NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

One case involving an aged woman in respect to which action was commenced towards the end of 1948 has been completed. Details of the circumstances were included in the 1948 report. Successful application to the Court of Summary Jurisdiction was made in January, 1949, an order being made authorising the Medical Officer of Health to remove her to Grantham Residential Establishment, where she subsequently died.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF
HEALTH.

FACTORIES ACTS 1937 - 1948.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Number of Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	12	2	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authorities	55	37	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	-	-	-	-
Total	67	39	2	-

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of cases where defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp:	By H.M. Insp:	
Want of cleanliness	3	4	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	3	4	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork).	-	-	-	-	-
	6	8	-	1	-

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SANITARY INSPECTOR
1949.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my second annual report on the Sanitary circumstances of the Urban District for the year ending 31st December 1949.

Housing progress has been maintained during the year. The 50 Airey type houses at Hillside Estate being now occupied and the erection of 26 traditional type houses having been commenced. The loss of the 1949 allocation of 52 houses was a serious setback in the provision of accommodation for the inadequately housed. The number of live applications shows no sign of reduction, the number of new applications being in excess of the number rehoused during the year. Many of these are newly married couples, who, it would appear, have little hope of being rehoused in the immediate future.

Routine Public Health work has continued without undue difficulty and a small number only of notices were outstanding at the end of the year. The rate at which notices have been complied has much improved.

October 1st saw the transfer of the duties of the Local Authorities in relation to the production of milk, to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Work on improving the conditions under which milk is produced continued up to that date. Full co-operation between Local Authorities and the Ministry must be exercised in order to effectively bring about the desired objective of a milk supply in this country which is entirely satisfactory.

I would like to thank the Council for their support, the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk of the Council and the other members of the Council's staff for their assistance and co-operation during the past year.

T.E. DAGWELL.

SANITARY INSPECTOR AND HOUSING OFFICER.

February, 1950.

THE SANITARY INSPECTION OF

THE AREA.

During the year 66 complaints have been investigated and 4,393 inspections and re-inspections have been made. These are detailed as follows :-

Dwelling Houses.

Primary inspections under the Housing Act	18
Primary inspections under the Public Health Act	190
Verminous premises	13
Overcrowding	45
Re-inspections under the Housing Act	-
Re-inspections under the Public Health Act	637
Verminous premises, re-inspections	9
Overcrowding re-inspections	4
Visits re disinfection	11

Other Inspections under the Public Health Act etc.

Drains inspected	505
Drains tested	143
Ditches and streams	24
Visits re water supply	34
Public conveniences	3
Piggeries	13
Stables	1
Animals kept so as to be a nuisance	2
Tents, vans and sheds	20
Places of entertainment	8
Miscellaneous visits	91

Other Visits.

Factories - mechanical	37
Factories - non-mechanical	2
Rodent Control	60
Visits to Council properties	1213
Visits re rehousing	85

Food Premises.

Slaughterhouses and Meat Depot	617
Butchers' shops	35
Bakchouses	21
Cafes and Restaurants	12
Licensed premises	49
Ice-cream premises	44
Grocers	51
Greengrocers	93
Fried Fish shops	4
Fresh Fish shops	35
Cowsheds and Dairies	8
Other food premises	4

As a result of inspections made, formal and informal notices were served where necessary.

	Out-stand- ing 1/1/49.	Verbal		Written		Statutory		Totals		Out-stand- ing 31/12/49.
		Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:	Ser:	Comp:	
Housing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acts----	49	42	43	37	61	32	19	111	123	37
P.H.Acts	1	1	1	2	3	-	-	3	4	NIL
Factories										

The high number of Statutory notices outstanding is accounted for by reason of the fact that 12 notices in respect to 6 properties were served in late October and which required the execution of major works. 2 Statutory notices were not complied with by the owners concerned and accordingly the works were carried out by the Council in default.

As a result of notices served, the following improvements have been carried out and contraventions remedied :-

Drainage.

Drains cleansed and repaired	33
New drains provided	58
Drains relaid	51
Drains reconstructed	34
Drains ventilated	8
Inspection chambers - repaired	12
Inspection chambers - new provided	48
Additional W.C's provided	21
W.C. pans renewed	1
Obsolete pans replaced	31
Privies or earth closets abolished	4
W.C's provided with flushing arrangements	25
W.W.P's renewed or repaired	4
W.C. Apartments repaired	33
Additional sinks provided	23
Sinks, etc., repaired or renewed	4
Waste pipes repaired or renewed	9
Urinals repaired or reconstructed.	4

Dwelling Houses etc.

Rooms disinfected	6
Bedding disinfected	-
Water supply reinstated	2
Water supply provided	1
Water supply improved	13
Dustbins provided	33
Yards paved and drained	20
Roofs repaired	18
Gutters and rain water pipes repaired	18
Damp proof courses provided	4
Damp walls remedied	15
External walls pointed or rendered	13
Chimney stacks reheaded or pointed	4
Stairs repaired	2
Ladders - new or repaired	2
Windows repaired or renewed	8
Firegrates repaired or renewed	9
Washing coppers provided or repaired	2
Walls and ceilings repaired	26
Walls and ceilings redecorated	3

Floors repaired	13
Vermin eradicated	6
Verminous bedding destroyed	1
Tents, vans and sheds removed	2
Offensive accumulations removed	1
Animal nuisances abated	2

HOUSING.

During 1949 the 50 Airey type houses at Hillside Estate were completed, except for minor matters and certain incidental works such as footpaths. All are occupied. The erection of a further 26 traditional type houses has commenced and at the end of the year several were at an advanced stage.

The Council were unable to complete acquisition of land at Galley Hill for the proposed new estate and as a result were unable to place contracts for the 1949 allocation of 32 houses and accordingly this has been lost. In an effort to minimise the loss it was proposed towards the end of the year to complete the North Parade Estate by the erection of 13 houses. Objections to the erection of Council houses were raised by the residents of North Parade and the Estate Developer agreed not to sell the necessary land to the Council. The scheme was abandoned.

In an effort to provide for the great local need of accommodation at lower rentals, consideration has been given to the provision of two-bedroomed houses or flats. There are on the Council's Housing list many middle aged and elderly couples who are greatly in need of rehousing and it does seem that consideration should be given in the future to the needs of this type of applicant. The provision of bungalows or similar accommodation, which would induce aged persons now living in pre-war Council houses to transfer, would materially assist in rehousing those larger families whose economic circumstances are such that they are unable to afford post-war rents.

The Council has continued to grant licences for private development and 7 were granted during the year.

The general standard of maintenance of Council houses can be regarded as very satisfactory. The replacement of firegrates, many now almost 30 years old, is proving a problem, involving considerable expenditure. Replacement, however, does seem to be an economic proposition, as the installation of sitting room firegrates does not involve heavy maintenance costs.

The general standard of cleanliness amongst Council tenants has improved. Many of the tenants set a fine example which others would do well to follow. Efforts are being made to tidy gardens on the pre-war estates and the co-operation of many tenants, particularly on the Nowfield Road estate is requested. Tenants are asked to keep their gardens well cultivated, free from dilapidated buildings and useless scrap material, in order that the Council's estates may not only be a credit to themselves, but to the town. The Council, in an effort to encourage the proper keeping of gardens, have purchased a cup to be awarded annually for the best cultivated plot.

Dogs, not properly under control, have been a source of annoyance, not only to other tenants, but also to neighbouring occupiers of agricultural land. Whilst the banning of dogs or other pets, or for that matter, the imposition of any restrictive regulations in respect of Council houses is to be deplored, there does seem to be no alternative if nuisances which arose during the past year continue.

Few new cases of overcrowding were discovered during the year and 3 only remained outstanding at 31st December, 1949. In one case an overcrowded house was further overcrowded by the addition of the tenant's son's wife. In this case it was decided to grant a temporary licence increasing the permitted number. The son and his wife have since found accommodation elsewhere.

Cases outstanding - 1/1/49 -	1.
New cases found -	7.
Number of cases abated	5.
By rehousing	4.
By removal to houses other than Council houses	1.
Number of persons rehoused	16.
Outstanding cases	3.

Work has commenced on a survey of the district with the object of grouping dwellings into various categories, having in mind the possibility of future action under the Housing Act, 1936. Unfortunately it has been impossible to spend a great deal of time on these inspections, due to pressure of other work.

HOUSING STATISTICS.

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year.

(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts.	208.
	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	848.
(b)	Number of dwelling houses (included under subheading (a) above), which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925.	16.
(c)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	Nil.
(d)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under preceding sub-headings) found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation.	57.

Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers.	60.
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Action Under Statutory Powers during the year.

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	Nil.
	Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices.	
	(i) By owners	Nil.
	(ii) By local authority in default of owners	Nil.
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts	
	(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	27.
	(ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices.	
	(a) By owners	14.
	(b) By local authority in default of owners.	2.

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936

(i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made. Nil.

(ii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders. Nil.

(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made. Nil.

(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenements or rooms having been rendered fit. Nil.

WATER SUPPLY.

The majority of premises within the district are supplied with water in pipes from the U.D.C. undertaking. The sources of water are from a spring and deep well to the West of Sleaford, from which it is pumped to reservoirs nearby. A low level reservoir serves the low-lying parts of the town and two water towers, interconnected, serve the higher portions. Storage has proved adequate and the excessively dry summer gave rise to little anxiety, though economy in the use of water was asked for.

The Sleaford Water Company was taken over by the Urban District Council on 1st January, 1949.

Towards the end of the year work was commenced on laying a new 4 inch main in Church Lane to remedy the nuisance which has arisen due to lack of pressure at the upper end. The laying of 859 yards of 4 inch main on the Hillside Estate was completed during the year.

Sampling of the public supply during the year was carried out 8 samples being submitted for chemical and bacteriological examination. The results showed that at the source the supply was of satisfactory bacterial quality for human consumption. A sample taken immediately after chlorination and from the rising main to the reservoirs was entirely satisfactory. 5 samples, however, taken from the low level reservoir, proved unsatisfactory. In two samples *Bacillus Coli* (Presumptive) was found in as little as 5 millilitres. Other samples showed the presence of *Bacillus Coli* (Presumptive) in 25 millilitres; in 50 millilitres; in 100 millilitres, but absent in 50. One sample taken from the high level reservoir showed the presence of *Bacillus Coli* (Presumptive) in 100 millilitres but absent in 50. It would therefore appear that some contamination of the low level reservoir is probably taking place, the cause of which the Council's Surveyor is to investigate.

The Chlorination Plant in existence when the Waterworks were taken over was found to be unreliable, and on the evidence of the sample results it was apparent that efficient chlorination was not being carried out. The Council therefore installed new chlorination plant, work on which was completed towards the end of the year.

Supplies other than from the public supply are as follows: -

- 14 premises at Quarrington are supplied from a private estate supply.
- 10 premises are supplied from deep wells.
- 14 premises are supplied from shallow wells.
- 4 premises are supplied from sources other than above.

During the year the unsatisfactory supply to Field Farm, Holdingham, has been replaced by a piped estate supply from Rauceby of satisfactory quality.

Occupiers of 6 premises served by a deep well complained of lack of supply due to the well failing. Whilst on sampling the water was found to be bacteriologically satisfactory, failures in the supply have occurred in past years. Notices were therefore served on the owner of these properties to provide an internal water supply drawn from the Council's mains.

Details of samples taken are tabled hereunder: -

PER MILLION PARTS.

	Low Level R'voir.	Low Level R'voir.	Low Level R'voir.	Low Level R'voir.	Grantham Road Tap.	Bore Supply.	Tap after Chlorinator.	High Level R'voir
Total solids dried at 180 C.	460.00	440.00	440.00	450.00	450.00	440.00	440.00	450.00
Suspended matter.	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
Chlorides as chlorine	28.40	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90	24.90
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrate	2.00	2.60	absent	absent	absent	2.60	absent	absent
Oxidised Nitrogen as nitrite	0.0050	absent	0.0015	0.0020	0.0030	absent	0.0020	0.0030
Free Ammonia	0.0040	0.0080	0.0040	0.0040	0.0040	0.0080	0.0080	0.0040
Albuminoid ammonia	0.0120	0.0040	0.0040	0.0040	0.0040	0.0040	0.0040	0.0080
Temporary Hardness	200.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00	205.00
Permanent Hardness	145.00	160.00	155.00	145.00	145.00	160.00	155.00	145.00
Oxygen absorbed in 4 hrs @ 80 F. from N/80 KMnO4								
pH value	0.20	0.12	0.00	0.20	0.00	0.12	0.00	0.00
Appearance	7.30	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.10	7.30
Odour	- - - -	- clear and bright	in all -	- - - -	- clear and bright	in all -	- - - -	- - - -
Taste and colour	none	none	none	none	none	none	none	none
Heavy Metals	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal	normal
Free Chlorine	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent	absent
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 21 C. in 72 hours.	84	74	54	1104	21	1	1	13
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 C. in 24 hours.	1	376	0	2	1	0	0	1
No. of colonies developing per ml. on agar at 37 C. in 48 hours.	3	2,000	2	3	3	1	0	2
Coli-aerogenes count per 100 mls. at 37 C. in 48 hours.	1	35	50	5	3	1	0	1
Faecal coli count per 100 mls. at 44 C. in 48 hours.	0	8	5	0	0	0	0	0
Bacillus coli Present in mls. (Presumptive) Absent in mls.	100 50	5 -	5 -	25 -	50 -	100 50	- 100	100 50

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No additions to the sewerage system of the Urban District were made during the year.

The water carriage system of the town area is partially combined and partially separate. Disposal is by land irrigation at the East end of the town, the generally unsatisfactory condition of which is giving rise to some alarm and emphasises the need for the proposed new scheme.

The new scheme, which provides for the construction of two new sewers from the North end of the town and from the Cogglesford Mill Pumping Station, together with new disposal works, was submitted to the Minister of Health during the year. A Public Enquiry was held by the Inspector of the Ministry on the 9th December, 1949.

Quarrington is drained by a sewer which discharges sewage, untreated, into a dyke. 13 premises are connected to this sewer, in 6 cases after treatment in septic tanks. 29 other premises discharge sink waste water, untreated, into dykes, making a total of 42 houses not connected to the Council's sewers. 4 houses at Grantham Road, discharging their sewage into a neighbouring dyke, have been recently re-drained and connected to the Council's sewer.

26 premises in the area have pail closets, 2 are provided with chemical closets and ten with privies, which are emptied on to adjoining gardens. No arrangements are made by the Council for the collection of night soil.

Work is in hand for re-draining two of the above premises with the provision of septic tanks and filter beds.

Proceedings were instituted against a local builder under the provisions of Section 41 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for failing to give 24 hours notice of his intention to carry out repairs to a drainage system. The case was dismissed.

Flooding.

No serious arose during the year. The provision of stormwater reliefs on the Westgate sections of sewer do appear to have satisfactorily dealt with surcharging which has occurred in the past in the West Banks area.

Work on cleaning out the bed of the Nine Foot River and part of the Slea in the built-up area has been completed, together with the construction of a relief dyke on Rauceby Banks, cut from the Slea to the Nine Foot River. This work, it is anticipated, will avoid a repetition of the floods of 1947.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Refuse collection and disposal is under the direction of the Surveyor.

During the year the collection vehicle was replaced by a new and larger vehicle of 10 cubic yards capacity. It was anticipated that the provision of a larger vehicle would enable a weekly collection to be maintained. This, however, has not been realised.

The majority of refuse is disposed of in the obsolete destructor, the remainder being tipped at the Greyloes Tip. The provision of a new destructor was considered during the year.

The institution of a scheme for the collection of trade refuse under contract was considered. It was decided that the amount of trade refuse involved would not warrant contracts and accordingly all trade refuse is collected free of charge.

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Meat Inspection.

Three slaughterhouses are used by the Ministry of Food for the Slaughter of Food Animals. The structural condition of these has deteriorated during the year, in particular the Drove Lane slaughterhouse, the lairage of which has become so dilapidated as to be dangerous for the lairring of beasts.

Negotiations with the Ministries of Food and Works, to whom it was suggested that the Drove Lane site should be utilised on a permanent basis, have been protracted and at the end of the year no definite scheme for the provision of new or reconstructed buildings had been submitted. The provision of satisfactory buildings for slaughtering is considered of primary importance, particularly as they are under direct control of a Government Department. Little progress can reasonably be made when requiring occupiers of food premises to carry out improvements to comply with existing legislation, when they can refer to Ministry controlled slaughterhouses which are so completely sub-standard and inadequate.

All carcasses slaughtered in the Ministry of Food Slaughterhouses have been inspected and in the course of this work 21 tons 0 cwt 5 lbs of meat were found to be diseased or otherwise unfit.

BEASTS.

17	Beasts' carcasses and all organs	--	Generalized Tuberculosis	11,630
2	" " " " "	--	Tubercular Emaciation	722
1	" " " " "	--	" Peritonitis	624
2	" " " " "	--	Septic Metritis & T.B.	1,191
6	" Forequarters	" "	Tuberculosis	1,163
4	" carcasses	" "	Septicemia	2,074
3	" " " " "	--	Septic Metritis	2,270
3	" " " " "	--	" Traumatic Pericarditis	1,552
1	" " " " "	--	Sapraemia	825
1	" " " " "	--	Gangrenous Pneumonia	743
1	" " " " "	--	John's Disease	318
3	" " " " "	--	Emaciation	1,060
3	" " " " "	--	Moribund	1,938
	Beasts' Heads and Tongues	--	Tuberculosis	2,571
	Beasts' Lungs	--	"	1,303
	Beasts' Livers	--	"	273
	Beasts' Hearts, Splens, Stomachs			
	Intestines, etc --		"	972
	Beasts' Heads and Tongues	--	Actinomycosis	731
	Beasts' Lungs	--	"	51
	Beasts' Heads, Tongues & Hearts	--	Cysticercus Bovis	204
	Beef and Beasts' Organs	--	Abscesses	956
	Beasts' Lungs and Livers	--	Distomatosis	1,721
	Beasts' Livers and Hearts	--	Fatty Degeneration	255
	Beasts' Livers, Stomachs,			
	Intestines	--	Peritonitis & Cirrhosis	992
	Beasts' Lungs and Heart	--	Pneumonitis, Pleurisy and Pericarditis	258
	Beasts' Livers	--	Angioma	170
	Beasts' Kidneys	--	Nephritis	14
	Beasts' Udders	--	Mastitis	109
	Beef	--	Fibrosis	86
	Beef and Beasts' Offal	--	Oedematous	509
	Beef	--	Injuries and Bruising	872
	Beasts' Organs	--	Other reasons	149
	Beef	--	Decomposition	982

CALVES.

3	Calves and all organs	--	Umbilical Pyaemia and Joint Ill	196
3	" " " " "	--	Congenital T.B.	480
	Veal	--	Injuries	39

SHEEP.

1 Sheep's carcass and all organs	-	Gangrene and Dropsy	81
1 " " " " "	-	Pyæmia	65
3 Sheeps' " " " "	-	Moribund	260
1 Sheep's " " " "	-	Emaciation	41
2 Sheeps' " " " "	-	Dropsy and Emaciation	131
3 " " " "	-	Septicæmia & Septic	
		Metritis	285
2 " " " "	-	Septic Pneumonia & Fever	182
1 Sheep's " " " "	-	Fevered	52
1 " " " "	-	Jaundice	64
Sheeps' Livers	-	Distomatosis	38
" Plucks and Livers	-	Parasites	167
" Organs	-	Other Reasons	73
Mutton	-	Injuries and other reasons	49
"	-	Decomposition	172
Sheeps' Livers	-	Fatty Degeneration	42
Mutton and Sheep Offal	-	Abcesses	74
<u>PIGS.</u>			
1 Pig carcass and all organs	-	Dropsy	286
5 Pigs' " " " "	-	Generalized Tuberculosis	720
1 Pig " " " "	-	Septicæmia	137
2 Pigs' " " " "	-	Swine Erysipelas	188
4 " " " "	-	Moribund	717
3 " " " "	-	Fevered	417
2 " " " "	-	Peritonitis	960
Pigs' Heads	-	Tuberculosis	793
Pigs' Plucks and Organs	-	"	86
Pigs' Plucks	-	Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Pericarditis, Peritonitis and Cirrhosis	260
Pork and Organs	-	Other reasons	66
" " "	-	Injuries	293
Pigs' Organs	-	Decomposition	70
Pork and Pigs' Organs	-	Abcesses	58
Pigs' Organs	-	Inflammation	106
" " "	-	Congestion	109

Carcases inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed	795	125	2,669	692
Number inspected	795	125	2,669	692
<u>All diseases except tuberculosis.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	21	3	15	13
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	304	4	118	133
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than T.B.	40.88	5.60	5.02	22.0
<u>Tuberculosis ONLY.</u>				
Whole carcasses condemned	20	3	-	5
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	140	-	-	55
Percentage of the number inspected affected with T.B.	20.13	2.40	-	8.67

In addition I have condemned 210 lbs corned beef.

Other Foods.

All food shops, bakehouses, cafes, market stalls and other food premises have continued to be kept under observation during the year. The general standard of cleanliness remains fairly good, though few structural improvements have been effected, except in the case of public houses, which, where lacking in suitable washing-up arrangements, have in most cases had satisfactory provision made. Sanitary conveniences have been reconstructed or improved in several licensed premises.

Occupiers of 2 bakehouses which were in a dilapidated condition and short of reconstruction could not be made satisfactory, have decided to cease use of these premises. A third bakehouse has been satisfactorily reconstructed.

One ice cream manufacturer was in operation during the year in newly constructed premises, production being in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations and otherwise satisfactory.

10 premises were registered during the year under the provisions of Section 14, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, 2 of which were newly constructed for manufacturing purposes. In each case provision for adequate washing accommodation and a constant supply of hot water was made.

In all, 14 premises are registered for the sale and storage of ice cream and 2 for the manufacture, storage and sale.

The Council have adopted bye-laws to control the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the open air.

The under-mentioned foods, other than fresh meat, have been examined and found to be unfit for food: -

12 tins of meat and soup.	Blown or punctured.
60 tins of fish.	Blown or punctured.
26 tins of fruit and vegetables.	Blown or punctured.
49 tins of milk.	Blown or punctured.
15 lbs. currants.	Contaminated during transit.
49 lbs. bacon.	Decomposition.
29 doz. eggs.	Unsound.
20 lbs. Belgian brawn.	Unsound.
4½ lbs cheese.	Unsound.
7 lbs. fish.	Decomposition.
23 lbs. cooked beef.	Decomposition.

Milk Supply.

The following were registered in the district at 1. 1. 49.

Cowkeepers	- 12
Dairies	- 13
Purveyors of milk - Resident in the district	- 9
Purveyors of milk - Resident outside the district	- 1.

Following the transfer of powers relating to Milk Production to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, the following distributors of milk remained registered.

Distributors	- 3.
Dairies	- 1.

Supplementary licences for designated milk at 1. 1. 49. were: -

Tuberculin Tested (Certified)	- 1.
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	- 1.
Pasteurised	- 1.

Samples of milk have been taken as follows: -

Ungraded

- 12.

Results were: -

<u>Ungraded Milk.</u>	<u>Satisfactory.</u>	<u>Unsatisfactory.</u>
Methylene Blue	1	11
Coliform Bacilli	1	11

The eleven unsatisfactory samples, all taken from 5 producers in the area, were followed up and the cowkeepers advised. Unsatisfactory conditions and methods found were drawn to the attention of the producers concerned. As the transfer of these producers has since taken place, no other follow-up inspections have been made.

Up to the time of the transfer of powers to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, negotiations were proceeding with owners of 4 farms for the reconstruction of cowsheds and dairies, but up to that time none were completed.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

Two sites are licensed in the area, on which vans may be stationed. One licence to station two vans at Holdingham expired early in the year and as the intention was to station these vans with some degree of permanency, the occupier was granted a further licence for two months, renewal being subject to the provision of an adequate paved area and drainage. The vans were moved before the expiration of this licence.

The unlicensed site on the North Road on which numerous vans had been stationed in previous years has not been in use during 1949.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action has been necessary during the year in connection with the abatement of smoke nuisances.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

The incidence of verminous premises continues to be low. 6 houses found to be infested with bugs have been successfully treated. Infestation in each case was not serious.

RODENT CONTROL.

The arrangement whereby the Surveyor's General Foreman acted as Rodent Control Operator was discontinued, it being found that he was unable to devote the necessary time to the work of Rodent Control. A full time operator was appointed, his work to include any disinfection and other work in connection with the Public Health Department, when not engaged on Rodent Control.

Since this appointment it has been found possible to adequately carry out control work and the rat population in the area has been considerably reduced.

A survey of the whole town has been almost completed and all infested premises found, treated.

A complete sewer treatment was carried out during the year, together with one maintenance treatment. No sewer treatments had been carried out for some time and there was therefore little up-to-date knowledge of the degree of infestation in the sewers.

- The complete treatment showed that generally the system is reasonably free from rats, the main centre of infestation being the brick barrel in Westgate, which sewer has little access, making treatment less extensive than is desirable. Other centres of infestation to a lesser degree were Queen Street, George Street, Martins Court, Southgate (traffic lights to Jermyn Street).

During the cleansing of the Nine Foot River, treatment was completed from its junction with the Slea to the Railway Bridge on Rauceby Banks and at the same time, treatment of the Slea from Carre Street Bridge to Southgate Bridge, together with the cut through Gladstone's Yard, was carried out. Considerable infestations were found and successfully treated.

Details of the work carried out are as follows: -

Rats.

No. of visits	2,261
Premises inspected - initial	373
Premises inspected and found infested	131
First treatments carried out	106
Second treatments carried out	91
Third treatments carried out	6
Major infestations	17
Minor infestations	114
Estimated No. of rats killed	1,295

Mice.

No. of visits	145
Premises inspected - initial	18
Premises inspected and found infested	16
First treatments carried out	16
Second treatments carried out	11
Infestations found and treated	16

